

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed April 15, 2005, Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1 and 3-7. In that same Office Action, Claim 2 is objected to as being of improper dependent form.

Claim objection

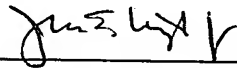
Claim 2 is objected to as being of improper dependent form. Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form as suggested at page 2 of the instant Office Action. Support for the rewritten Claim 2 may be found at least at page 6, lines 10-13. Claims 8-12 dependent upon rewritten Claim 2 have been added.

Conclusion

Applicants have amended Claim 2 and added Claims 8-12. Such amendment is to be construed as "truly cosmetic" and is not believed to narrow the scope of the claims or raise an estoppel within the meaning of *Festo Corporation v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., Ltd., et al.*, 535 U.S. 722 (2002). Applicants also contend that such claim amendments add no new matter and find support in the specification.

Applicants submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested for Claims 1-12. If the Examiner is of the opinion that the instant application is in condition for other than allowance, she is invited to contact the Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below, so that additional changes to the claims may be discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

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